

COMMONLY ABUSED PRESCRIPTION AND OTC MEDICATIONS

Substance	Examples of <i>Commercial</i> and Street Names
DEPRESSANTS	
barbiturates	<i>Amytal, Nembutal, Seconal, Phenobarbital</i> ; barbs, reds, red birds, phennies, tooies, yellows, yellow jackets
Benzodiazepines (other than flunitrazepam)	<i>Ativan, Halcion, Librium, Valium, Xanax</i> ; candy, downers, sleeping pills, tranks
Flunitrazepam (associated with sexual assaults; not sold in US, but may be brought in)	<i>Rohypnol</i> ; forget-me pill, Mexican Valium, R2, Roche, roofies, roofinol, rope, rophies
OPIOIDS AND MORPHINE DERIVATIVES	
codeine	<i>Empirin with Codeine, Fiorinal with Codeine, Robitussin A-C, Tylenol with Codeine</i> ; Captain Cody, Cody, schoolboy; (with glutethimide) doors & fours, loads, pancakes and syrup
fentanyl and fentanyl analogs	<i>Actiq (oral), Duragesic (patch), Sublimaze</i> ; Apache, China girl, China white, dance fever, goodfella, jackpot, murder 8, TNT, Tango & Cash
morphine	<i>Roxanol, Duramorph</i> ; M, Miss Emma, monkey, white stuff
oxycodone HCL	<i>Oxycontin</i> ; Oxy, O.C., killer
hydrocodone bitartrate, acetaminophen	<i>Vicodin</i> ; vike, Watson-387
STIMULANTS	
amphetamine	<i>Biphedamine, Dexedrine, Adderall</i> ; bennies, black beauties, crosses, hearts, LA turnaround, speed, truck drivers, uppers
methylphenidate (safe & effective for treatment of ADHD)	<i>Ritalin</i> ; JIF, MPH, R-ball, Skippy, the smart drug, vitamin R
OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) MEDICATION	
Dextromethorphan (DXM)	<i>Found in any cold medicine with "DM" or "Tuss" in the title or name</i> ; Orange Crush, Triple C's, C-C-C, Red Devils, Skittles, Dex, Vitamin D, Robo, Robo-trippin', Robo-dosing

www.drugfreeamerica.com
www.nida.nih.gov

Additional Resources:
www.theantidrug.com
www.freebive.com

www.painfullyobvious.com
www.samhsa.gov



DON'T BE YOUR KID'S DRUG DEALER



FACTS

- The 17th annual national study of teen drug abuse* reports that an alarming number of teenagers are abusing a variety of prescription (Rx) and over-the-counter (OTC) medications to get high.
- The abuse of Rx and OTC medications intentionally to get high is the new emerging category of substance abuse.
- Kids as young as 12 are experimenting with, or using, Rx and OTC medications non-medically.
- Approximately 1 in 5 teenagers has abused a prescription painkiller to get high.
- 1 in 10 teenagers has abused OTC cough medications intentionally to get high.
- **PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS ARE JUST AS DANGEROUS AS ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES WHEN USED INAPPROPRIATELY OR ABUSED, AND CAN BE LETHAL.**

THE PROBLEM

- Rx and OTC medications are easily accessible to kids (right in their home medicine cabinets).
- Rx and OTC medications are perceived by kids as safe compared to "street" drugs because they are legal, doctor-prescribed, and FDA-approved.

HOW KIDS ABUSE Rx AND OTC MEDICATIONS

- Swallow the pills or drink liquids.
- Crush the pills before snorting or smoking the powder.
- Melt or dissolve the medications and then inject them.
- Mix the medications with alcohol and street drugs to make "cocktails."

*Partnership Attitude Tracking Study,
Partnership for a Drug-Free America



TIPS FOR PARENTS

Educate Yourself:

- Educate yourself about medications that kids are abusing, and share this information with others who are in contact with your children – school administrators, coaches, counselors, etc.

Communicate With Your Kids:

- Discuss the subject with your teenagers. See what your kids know about peers using medications without doctors' orders.
- Set clear expectations with your teenagers, letting them know that under no circumstances should they ever take medications without your knowledge.

Safeguard Medications at Home and Other Places:

- Ask your healthcare provider if any medications prescribed for your family have a potential for abuse.
- Take an inventory of Rx and OTC medications in your home. Pay attention to quantities.
- Keep medications out of reach – and out of easily accessible places like the medicine cabinet.
- If your child needs medications during school hours, speak with school officials about policies for distributing medications to students. If possible, personally take the medications to the school nurse. Make sure unused medications are returned to you.

Source: Partnership for a Drug-Free America

DISCLAIMER: Please read.

The information in this brochure is not intended to replace proper medical supervision or advice. Always consult your doctor or other healthcare professional when you have questions or concerns about prescription or over-the-counter medications.



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www.santa-clarita.com/blueribbon



SIGNS OF DRUG ABUSE

Radical Changes in Behavior such as:

- Acting especially angry or abusive, or engaging in reckless behavior.
- Acting withdrawn, depressed or apathetic.
- Changes in friends.
- Getting into trouble at school, negative changes in schoolwork, missing school, or declining grades.
- Lying or acting secretive or deceptive.
- Neglecting appearance or hygiene.
- Possessing unexplained valuables of cash.
- Subtle changes in conversations with friends, e.g., using "coded" language.
- Violating curfews or running away.

Physical Signs:

- Constant flu-like symptoms
- Dilated pupils; pinpoint pupils; droopy eyes
- Dry skin; itching; skin infections
- Elevated body temperatures
- Fast heart beat; irregular heart beat
- Hyperactivity
- Loss of appetite or sudden and unexplained weight loss
- Loss of coordination
- Nausea; vomiting; constipation
- Paranoia
- Repetitive behaviors
- Respiratory depression
- Seizures
- Shaking
- Sleep deprivation or "nodding"
- Slow gait; slowed reflexes
- Slow slurred speech
- Sweating
- Track marks (bruised skin around injection sites)

